



# Westchester County Detachment Marine Corps League PO Box 505

## White Plains, NY 10602-0505

Next meeting May 7, 2004 First Wednesday

Muster 730pm (food served), Meeting 8pm

Legion Hall, 57 Mitchell Place, White Plains, NY

Commandant: Al Cavallo 718-456-6932

**MEMBERSHIP- FY04 = 448**

**Only 52 to make that 500**

We have only to **June 10** to get it booked for this FY. We have **85** members overdue or payable for this time period. Renew and renew early.

**2004 is our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!**

Ask that Marine to associate with our detachment.

### NEW NEW NEW

Online dues payment.

Visit our website and save a stamp, envelope and that check writing time.

Try it, you'll like it.

Think **LIFE**. To age 41=\$250;  
41-50=\$200; 51-60=\$150; 61+=\$75

### Welcome Aboard

**New Members:** John Torpey of Hawthorne sponsored by Wil Calderon; **Lt Gen Robert Magnus USMC** of Alexandria, VA, **Cpl Patrick Gravenese USMC** of W. Harrison, **Anthony Diorio** of Valhalla sponsored by Lu Caldara; **Patrick Ward** of Yonkers sponsored by Nunzio Franchi.

**New Life Members:** Lt Gen Robert Magnus USMC of Alexandria, VA; **Cpl Patrick Gravenese USMC** of West Harrison; **GySgt John Daniele USMC** of New Rochelle; **Christopher Vogel** of Yorktown Heights; **Wil Calderon** of West Nyack; **Manny Hernandez** of Merritt Island, FL.

We are at **268** Life Members.

### TAPS

Life member **Charles Angotto Jr.** of Port Chester passed away on March 16. Charlie was a Korean War veteran.

**Installation of Officers** by Bill Lewis, Past Commandant of Putnam County Detachment.

Elected:

Commandant: Al Cavallo  
Sr. Vice Commandant: Al Schramm  
Jr. Vice Commandant: Jim Mazzone  
Judge Advocate: Robert Stephens  
Jr. Past Commandant: Wil Calderon  
Adjutant/Paymaster: Lu Caldara  
Chaplain: Dick Balog

Appointed:

Sergeant at Arms: Ray D'Alessandro

Website - [WWW.MCLWESTCHESTER.ORG](http://WWW.MCLWESTCHESTER.ORG)

### Calendar

The following event listings are an invitation to ALL members to attend and participate.

**May 31:** Memorial Day parade. Muster White Plains Library 9:30am, 10am kick-off. Color Guard.

**June 11:** Flag Day Ceremonies. Elks Club, Boston Post Rd., Mamaroneck. Color Guard.

**July 4:** Independence Day ceremony. Port Chester HS. Color Guard

**July 7-10:** State Dept. Convention. Watertown. Best Western Carriage House Inn. \$64-70 315-782-8000

**Nov. 7:** Marine Corps Anniversary Brunch Mannion's Restaurant, McLean Ave., Yonkers 11am-3pm. \$26. POC Dick Balog 914-237-5416.

### Member News

**Cpl Patrick Gravenese USMC** is with 2/8 in Afghanistan. **Sgt William Christie USMC** of 6<sup>th</sup> Comm Bn, picked up his promotion the first of the year. **Major Mike Deem USMC**, on active duty, is doing a military exercise in Naples, Italy. **Major Wally Powers USMC** led his contingent of 2/25 Marines in the St. Patrick's Day Parade up 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, NYC. **Al Cavallo** presented the **LtGen Robert Magnus USMC** challenge coins to the MAG 49 Marine color guard who performed at our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The presentation took place at the MAG 49 HQ at Stewart ANGB, Newburgh with SgtMaj Dixon assisting. **Lu Caldara** represented the detachment at the MCL Northeast Division meeting in Bethlehem, PA. Guest of honor, General Al Gray USMC Ret, autographed a copy of TIME magazine for presentation to **Cpl Pat Gravenese USMC** (featured on the cover, serving in Afghanistan) recognizing his contribution to the war against terrorism. USMC Recruiters Poolie "Family Day", hosted at the Armonk American Legion Hall, April 10, was coordinated with member **SSgt Bradley Adams USMC** (Yonkers). Member **Dr. Alan Schramm** was the guest speaker. **Lu Caldara** assisted.

### Corporal Bernard Gooden USMC Remembered

Memorial services were held for Corporal Gooden USMC, KIA April 4, 2003 in Iraq, in Mount Vernon on April 10. Corporal Gooden is the only Marine from

Editor: Lu Caldara 941-2118

same tank hit by the enemy fire, Lt Adam Markley USMC, came from Camp Lejeune to attend the services. The Library at Camp Lejeune's 2d Tank Bn area, has been dedicated to Corporal Gooden. Members **Jim Mazzone**, **Lu Caldara** and **Dick Balog** represented our detachment.

### Westchester County Veterans Service Committee Installation Dinner

March 10, three of our members were installed as the Committee Officers: **Eugene Bryant** (VFW) as Chairman; **Dick Esau** (MOPH) Vice Chair; **Lu Caldara** (MCL) Secretary / Treasurer. Other Committee Reps attending include members **Ray D'Alessandro** (DAV), **Irwin Howard** (KWVA). Commandant **Al Cavallo** and members **Wilton Calderon**, **James Mazzone**, **Donald Shelton**, **George Humphrey**, **John Krankus** also attended the affair at Post 93 AL in Port Chester.

### St. Patrick's Day Parade White Plains

Our color guard (**Al Cavallo**, **Glenn Sadowski**, **Wil Calderon** and **Jim Mazzone**) led our contingent. **Jim Stead** followed with his 1944 USMC Jeep; The chase car was manned by **Win Howard** with **Jim Hall** in the line of march. Our Young Marines, of 25+, were led by **Lu Caldara** and **Mark Capetillo**.

### Marine Memorial Scholarship Funds

In memory of a valued member  
**"Victor L. Salvador"**  
**Mamaroneck HS**  
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In memory of Westchester County  
Marines who were killed in the  
bombing of the Marine Barracks in  
Beirut, Lebanon in 1983.

**"Lest we forget"**

**\*LCpl Craig Wyche USMC**  
**Ossining HS**

**\*Cpl James J. Jackowski USMC**

Westchester, who has been killed in combat in Iraq. His tank commander who was in the

**John Jay HS**

**As of 3/9/04=\$15,104.56**

Donations are always welcome. How about company matching grants?

**Donations:** \$500 was made by the **Mercante Family** in memory of **Anthony Mercante** of the Bronx; \$150 from **Chris Vogel** of Yorktown Heights; \$25 from **Steve Topilnycky**.

\$7.50 from "loose change" donor.

**Project "We Care"**

Our troops are still serving in many far of lands and are looking for gifts and letters from the folks at home. Visit our web site for names and addresses of our service people. Show **"We Care."**

**USMCR "Family Assistance Program**

\$50 donation from **Donna Zender** of Indianapolis, IN.

**Young Marines**

The new recruiting training cycle began with 18 new youngsters. March 13, 20 YM's participated, with the detachment, in the White Plains "St. Patrick's Day" parade.

**Gabe Phifer** (former YM SgtMajor and son of Life Member Solomon Phifer) graduated from MIT and is now an Aerospace Engineer with Boeing in St. Louis, MO.

[http://members.aol.com/forvets/dd214.](http://members.aol.com/forvets/dd214.htm)

[htmwww.VeteransAlert.com](http://www.VeteransAlert.com)

Helping Veterans with the important things in life.

Member, WC Det. MCL

**Westchester County**

**Veterans Service Agency**

**H. Gaylord Worrell, Director**

**914-995-2145,6**

**Yonkers Veterans Service Agency**

**Member Geno Egiziaco, Counsellor**

**914-377-6700**

**USMC Recruiting Service Westchester**

682-4785 - White Plains

969-1166 - Yonkers

737-7887 - Peekskill

**Uniform shirts are available at:**

**New England Sportswear**

495 Main Street

Armonk, NY 10504

**914-273-2515**

White w/epaulets and permanent creases. Patches sewn on free. MCL Patches are at the store and are at no charge. They have been provided by the detachment.

By mail: shipping & handling extra.

Credit Card orders accepted.

Short Sleeve:\$29.92.

Long Sleeve:\$32.95

**Detachment Anniversary**

**"Challenge Coins"**

cost only **\$10** each.

Only a limited number are available.

Donations, to the detachment projects, in excess of \$100, will receive a **FREE** detachment anniversary

"Challenge Coin."

## **Military service proves popular**

Despite a rising tide of combat deaths and the prospect of deployments to Afghanistan and Iraq for years to come, Americans continue to volunteer for duty and are re-enlisting at record rates. The Army is at 100.1 percent of its "active duty mission," said spokesman Douglas Smith, reviewing numbers current as of March 29. Navy reenlistment rates are at an all time high, with 62.3 percent of first-term sailors signing up for additional service. In the Air Force, new recruit contracts are coming in at 104.2 percent of goal in fiscal year 2003 and reached 102.6 percent of goal through March. The Marines have exceeded their monthly recruiting goal every month for the past 106 consecutive months, or for nearly nine consecutive years.